

Message Text

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SUBJECT: PRESS MATERIAL

1. HERewith WASHINGTON POST FRONT PAGE JIM HOAGLAND BY-LINER TUESDAY, AUGUST 10, HEADED "FRANCE TO GO AHEAD WITH A-PLANT SALE."
 2. PARIS, AUG. 9 -- FRANCE WILL GO AHEAD WITH ITS PLANS TO SELL A NUCLEAR PROCESSING PLANT TO PAKISTAN DESPITE THE PRESSURE SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY A. KISSINGER IS EXERTING ON BOTH COUNTRIES TO CANCEL THE DEAL, INFORMED SOURCES SAID TODAY.
 3. THESE SOURCES SAID FRENCH OFFICIALS ARE REACTING WITH "IRRITATION" TO WHAT THEY SEE AS THE SECOND AMERICAN INTERVENTION THIS YEAR AGAINST FRENCH NUCLEAR EXPORTS IN THE THIRD WORLD.
 4. FRANCE AGREED TO CANCEL THE SALE OF A SIMILAR ATOMIC FUEL REPROCESSING PLANT TO SOUTH KOREA IN JANUARY AFTER THE U.S. MADE ITS DISPLEASURE WITH THE DEAL KNOWN TO BOTH
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COUNTRIES.

5. KISSINGER ARRIVED IN FRANCE TONIGHT AFTER MEETING WITH

PAKISTAN PRIME MINISTER ZULFIQAR ALI BHUTTO IN LAHORE EARLY IN THE DAY.

6. REPORTERS TRAVELLING ON THE PLANE WITH THE SECRETARY WERE TOLD THAT KISSINGER HAD FIRMLY WARNED BHUTTO AGAINST BUYING THE FRENCH PLANT AND THAT THE U.S. HAD ALSO EXPRESSED ITS DISPLEASURE WITH THE FRENCH.

7. FRENCH OFFICIALS SAID THERE WOULD BE NO DISCUSSIONS ON THE QUESTION DURING KISSINGER'S 36-HOUR STOPOVER AT A BRITISH FRIEND'S PRIVATE ESTATE 25 MILES FROM DEAUVILLE, AN ATLANTIC COAST RESORT.

8. U.S. OFFICIALS HERE INSIST THAT KISSINGER IS MERELY TAKING A DAY AND A HALF OFF HERE BEFORE GOING TO THE NETHERLANDS WEDNESDAY FOR A ROUTINE SIX-HOUR VISIT. THE SECLUSION OF THE ESTATE HE IS VISITING, HOWEVER, COULD ALSO BE AN IDEAL SETTING FOR ONE OF THE SECRETARY'S SECRET DIPLOMATIC MEETINGS.

9. THE NEW AMERICAN-FRENCH DISCORD ON NUCLEAR EXPORTS, WHICH WAS THE PRINCIPAL POINT OF DISPUTE BETWEEN PRESIDENT FORD AND VALERY GISCARD D'ESTAING IN DISCUSSIONS IN WASHINGTON IN MAY, COMES ONE WEEK AFTER FRANCE LET IT BE KNOWN THAT IT WILL SELL SOUTH KOREA TWO NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANTS.

10. THE FRENCH DO NOT EXPECT THE SOUTH KOREAN SALE TO PRODUCE NEW PROBLEMS WITH WASHINGTON. THE UNITED STATES ITSELF IS A MAJOR EXPORTER OF NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS TO THE THIRD WORLD.

11. BUT THE UNITED STATES OPPOSES THE EXPORT OF THE TECHNOLOGY FOR RECOVERING PLUTONIUM THAT CAN BE USED FOR MANUFACTURING NUCLEAR WEAPONS, PRESENTLY THE PRINCIPAL FUNCTION OF THE KIND OF REPROCESSING PLANT PAKISTAN HAS AGREED TO BUY FROM FRANCE. INDIA USED A REPROCESSING PLANT TO MAKE A NUCLEAR BOMB.

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12. FRENCH OFFICIALS STRESS THAT PAKISTAN HAS AGREED TO OBSERVE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY SAFEGUARDS AS A CONDITION FOR THE SALE AND HAS SIGNED A SEPARATE AGREEMENT WITH FRANCE PLEDGING TO USE THE PLANT FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES ONLY AND PERMITTING FRENCH AND IAEA INSPECTION.

13. LEMONDE, FRANCE'S MOST INFLUENTIAL NEWSPAPER, REFLECTED

FRENCH IRRITATION WITH WHAT THE NEWSPAPER CALLED KISSINGER'S "DIKTAT" AND CALLED IT DIPLOMATICALLY UNACCEPTABLE.

14. THE NEWSPAPER ALSO NOTED THAT DEMOCRATIC PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE JIMMY CARTER HAD MADE NUCLEAR CONTROLS AN ELECTION CAMPAIGN ISSUE, AND IT SUGGESTED THAT KISSINGER'S REPORTED WARNINGS -- WHICH WERE NOT PUBLICLY REPEATED TO PAKISTANI REPORTERS AT AN AIRPORT NEWS CONFERENCE -- WERE AT LEAST PARTLY POLITICALLY INSPIRED.

15. WASHINGTON POST CORRESPONDENT THOMAS W. LIPPMAN, TRAVELING WITH THE KISSINGER PARTY, FILED THE FOLLOWING REPORT FROM LAHORE, PAKISTAN:

16. PAKISTAN FACES THE POSSIBILITY OF BEING CUT OFF FROM U.S. AID, WHICH LAST YEAR AMOUNTED TO MORE THAN 162 MILLION DOLLARS, IF IT GOES AHEAD WITH THE REPROCESSING PLANT DEAL, A HIGH OFFICIAL IN THE U.S. PARTY SAID.

17. CONGRESS HAS PASSED A LAW REQUIRING SUCH A CUTOFF FOR ANY NATION THAT ACQUIRED A REPROCESSING PLANT WITHOUT ADEQUATE SAFEGUARDS.

18. SINCE PAKISTAN HAS NOT SIGNED THE NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY IT WOULD CLEARLY BE VULNERABLE TO SUCH SANCTIONS.

19. IN ADDITION, IT WAS LEARNED THE PAKISTANIS HAVE ASKED FOR PERMISSION TO BUY 80 TO 100 A-7 ATTACK PLANES. IT IS NOT CLEAR THAT PAKISTAN HAS THE ESTIMATED 500 MILLION DOLLARS NEEDED FOR SUCH A PURCHASE BUT, IN ANY CASE, BHUTTO WAS TOLD CLEARLY THAT PAKISTAN'S ACTION ON THE PLANT ISSUE WOULD BE TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION WHEN THE DEAL IS UNCLASSIFIED

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REVIEWED IN WASHINGTON.

20. AS KISSINGER LEFT LAHORE HE TOLD AN AIRPORT NEWS CONFERENCE THAT THE UNITED STATES WOULD GIVE PAKISTAN 200,000 TONS OF WHEAT FOR FLOOD RELIEF. END TEXT. ROBINSON

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